

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 12 (and ending on page 6, line 18) of the application as filed, with the following substitute paragraph:

In one embodiment, the database may be DB2® (a product of IBM Corporation) and the operating system(s) on which the DB2 database may execute may be OS/390® and/or z/OS®. (DB2, OS/390 and z/OS are registered trademarks of the IBM Corporation of Armonk, New York.) Typically, the OS/390 and z/OS operating systems run on IBM Enterprise Servers (e.g., mainframe computer systems). Alternatively, various other databases and/or operating systems may be used. Thus the management or controlling of free space distribution by key range may be accomplished in various other database management systems, in addition to DB2, in similar manner as described below.